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39.	Sonbhadra
40.	Sultan Pur
41.	Unnao
42.	Varanasi

Maintenance Centres For LPT, Kerala

*308. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Maintenance Centre for Low Power Transmitters in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) whether proposals have been received for setting up this centre at Adoor in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of new transmitters proposed to be set up in the State, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) There is presently no proposal to set up additional Maintenance Centres of Doordarshan in Kerala.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Three Maintenance Centres, one each at Cochin, Cannanore and Trichur are functioning in the State of Kerala. While there is no approved scheme at present to set up a Maintenance Centre at Adoor in Kerala, the same can be considered at an appropriate time depending upon the requirement vis-a-vis establishment of new Low Power/Very Low Power TV Transmitters in the region.

(e) A High Power TV Transmitter (permanent set up) project at Calicut and three Low Power Transmitter projects, one each at Thodupuzha, Adoor and Attapadi are presently under implementation in the State of Kerala. In addition, an HPT project at Cannanore and four Low Power/Very Low Power TV Transmitter projects at Pala, Erattupetta, Mundakayam and Cannanore (DD II) are envisaged to be set up in the State subject to availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities.

Disinvestment in Air India

*311. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to disinvest the equity capital in Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of equity capital proposed to be disinvested;

(d) whether any plan has been drawn up for the expansion of Air India capacity in terms of fleet etc. in the context of disinvestment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). The Air India Limited figures in the list of 40 Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) referred by the Government to the Disinvestment Commission for drawing up a comprehensive and long term disinvestment programme for these PSEs.

(d) and (e). Air India plans to continue renewal and expansion of its fleet, irrespective of the decision regarding disinvestment.

Doordarshan projects in in Delhi and Bombay

*312. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

SHRI KACHARU BHAAU RAUT :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether major projects of Doordarshan viz. Doordarshan Bhavan, Delhi and TV expansion at Bombay are running behind the schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the cost escalation due to delay in completion of these projects;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to accelerate the commissioning of these projects;

(e) whether representations have been received for setting up of AIR Kendras in Maharashtra;

(f) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). There has been some delay in completion of Doordarshan Bhawan (Studio-cum-Office Complex) project at Delhi and also in the project for Expansion of TV Centre, Mumbai. The main reasons for delay in completion of the aforesaid projects are as under :—

(i) **Doordarshan Bhawan (Studio-cum-Office Complex), Delhi :-**

Removal of un-authorised encroachment at the project site and changes required to be carried out in the approved scope of the project due to revision of

Municipal By-laws relating to the construction of high-rise buildings in Central District of New Delhi Municipal Committee (NDMC) area.

(ii) Expansion of TV Centre, Mumbai:-

Slow progress of civil works by the contractor who was initially assigned the civil works of the project which eventually had to be rescinded and the balance work is now being executed by the second contractor; non-availability of construction material for some time; problems of water logging/regular seepage in the basement; change in scope of the project etc.

(c) While the cost escalation due to delay in implementation of Doordarshan Bhawan (Studio-cum-Office Complex) project at Delhi is Rs. 4745.29 lakhs, in the case of Expansion of TV Centre Project at Mumbai, it is Rs. 1917.89 lakhs.

(d) The civil works in respect of Doordarshan Bhawan (Studio-cum-Office Complex) at Delhi as well as Expansion of TV Centre at Mumbai are in progress. As per the present indications, while the Doordarshan Bhawan (Studio-cum-Office Complex) at Delhi is expected to be made ready by the end of the financial year 1998-99, the project for Expansion of TV Centre at Mumbai is expected to be made ready by the end of the financial year 1997-98.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) to (h). There are at present 20 Radio Stations in operation in the State of Maharashtra providing service to estimated 98% area and 99% population of the State. Some small pockets in Sindhudurg and Osmanabad districts were reportedly not covered by any of the AIR's MW/FM Transmitters. However, the uncovered pockets in Osmanabad district are expected to receive AIR coverage from the FM transmitter at Osmanabad which has since been commissioned on 9.12.1996. In addition, a new Radio Station is being established at Malwan in Sindhudurg district which is expected to be completed during 9th Plan.

[Translation]

Re-Construction of Hotels

*313. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount proposed to be spent by India Tourism Development Corporation on the reconstruction of hotels;

(b) whether the modernisation drive is proposed to be funded entirely by the internal resources;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to demolish some hotels;

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(f) whether the life of the hotels which are likely to be demolished was evaluated at the time of construction, and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) It is estimated to incur Rs. 98.11 crores on reconstruction of Lodhi Hotel, New Delhi in the first phase, followed by reconstruction of Janpath and Ranjit Hotels for which schemes would be finalised in second and third phases respectively.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir, current year's (1996-97) plan outlay of Rs. 40 crores which includes a provision of Rs. 17.74 crores for renovation/improvements in hotels would be met out of internal resources.

(d) and (e). The proposal is to demolish the old structures of Lodhi, Janpath and Ranjit hotels which are considered not conducive for the efficient operation of hotels. They will be replaced with new structures with modern facilities and utilisation of space.

(f) and (g). The buildings of these hotels were constructed in 1955-56 to be used as hotels by the Central Govt. No. records are available with ITDC about the evaluation of the life span of these buildings.

Shifting of Beedi Industries to Southern States

*314. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether beedi industries are being shifted from Madhya Pradesh to the Southern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the economic development of the beedi labourers affected thereby?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As per information furnished by the State Government, no such case has so far been reported to the State Labour Department.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Expenditure on Publicity

*315. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULISHNH
GAEKWAD :
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry have been incurring huge expenditure on publicity arbitrarily;

(b) if so, whether he has expressed resentment in this regard;